

REMARKS

Claims 6-9, 12, 14 and 16-24 are now pending in the application. Claim contained herein are of an equivalent scope to claims as originally filed and, thus, are not a narrowing amendment. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 10 and 14-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,253,075 (Beghtol). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

It is believed that the originally filed claims are patentably distinct over this reference. However, in order to expedite prosecution of this application, independent Claim 6 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of objected to Claim 11. Similarly, Claim 14 has been amended to recite similar subject matter. Lastly, Claims 19 and 22 correspond to objected to Claims 12 and 13, respectively. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

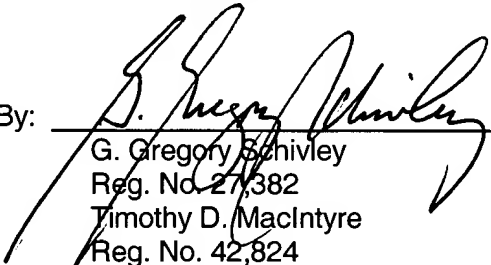
CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: June 15, 2004

By: _____


G. Gregory Schivley
Reg. No. 27,382
Timothy D. MacIntyre
Reg. No. 42,824
Attorneys for Applicant

Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303
(248) 641-1600

TDM/mas